

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 05029 300715Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /056 W

----- 117137

R 300655Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1727

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 5029

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IR

SUBJ: IRANIAN ELECTORAL PREPARATIONS

1. EXECUTIVE BOARD OF RESURGENCE PARTY OF PEOPLE OF IRAN (RPPI) ANNOUNCED MAY 29 LIST OF 797 CANDIDATES FOR JUNE 20 NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. CANDIDATES FOR 15 PROVINCIAL SENATE SEATS HAVE YET TO BE NAMES BUT IT NOW APPEARS THERE WILL BE AN AVERAGE OF 2.8 CANDIDATES FOR EACH OF THE 268 MAJLES AND 15 SENATE SEATS FOR WHICH CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED. PRESS ACCOUNTS INDICATE DURING RATHER ABBREVIATED CAMPAIGN PERIOD PARLIMENTARY HOPEFULS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO DEBATE ISSUE OF DEFENSE, OIL OR FOREIGN POLICY BUT OTHER MATTERS, PARTICULARLY INCLUDING WELFARE AND DEV- ELOPMENT PROGRAMS, ARE SAID TO BE FAIR GAME FOR DISCUSSION.

2. AFTER EXECUTIVE BOARD HAD COMPLETED ITS DELIBERATIONS, LIST OF SOME 1,000 NAMES WAS REPORTEDLY GIVEN TO A SECURITY COMMITTEE OF 5 FOR FINAL CLEARANCE BEFORE PRESENTATION TO THE SHAH. ACCORDING TO MRS MOKHADDAREH ZIAI, WHO HAS EXCELLENT CONNECTIONS IN THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY AND IN VARIOUS LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, 4 OF THE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE ARE SHAH'S PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE CHIEF HOSSEIN FARDOUST, SAVAK DEPARTMENT 3 CHIEF PARVIZ SABETI, CHIEF OF NATIONAL POLICE SAMAD SAMADIANPOUR AND ENDOWMENTS ORGANIZATION CHIEF MANOUCHEHR AZMOUN. THE LATTER HAS RISEN RAPIDLY IN RECENT WEEKS AND FROM A POSITION ON THE PERIPHERY OF PARTY POLITICS HAS BECOME SOMETHING OF AN INSIDER.

HELMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEHRAN05029
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750189-0349
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975053/aaaaacqu.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRANIAN ELECTORAL PREPARATIONS
TAGS: PINT, IR, RPPI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006